

## Message Text

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61

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 SCCT-01 NIC-01 /079 W

----- 082257

R 291743Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7742

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 01389

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF, UK

SUBJECT: PLO'S MOSCOW AND LONDON OFFICES

REF: MOSCOW 976

1. OUR ONLY CONTRIBUTION TO REFTEL IS THAT FCO OFFICIAL HAD LUNCH WITH HIGH PLO OFFICIAL (SECRETARY OF PALESTINIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL) TWO WEEKS AGO IN LONDON AND, IN REPLY TO QUESTION AS TO DELAY IN OPENING MOSCOW PLO OFFICE, WAS TOLD: "SOVIET BUREAUCRACY IS INCREDIBLE." PALESTINIAN SAID OFFICE HAD BEEN SCHEDULED TO OPEN JANUARY 2, WITH SOVIET APPROVAL.

2. COMMENT: CONSIDERING THE SOURCE THIS EXPLANATION NEED NOT BE JUDGED MORE VALID THAN EMBASSY MOSCOW'S  
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SPECULATION (REFTEL) THAT PLO MAY HAVE CHANGED ITS MIND

FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER. POSSIBLY APPLICABLE IS FACT  
PLO HAS NOT OPENED OFFICE IN LONDON EITHER, ALTHOUGH HMG  
HAS MADE IT CLEAR IN PUBLIC AS IN PRIVATE THAT IT COULD  
NOT PREVENT ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH AN OFFICE AS LONG AS  
OFFICE'S ACTIVITIES COULD NOT BE PROVEN TO BE ILLEGAL.  
FCO OFFICIALS SPECULATE THAT PLO DOES NOT CONSIDER  
STATUS OFFICE WOULD BE ACCORDED HIGH ENOUGH TO WARRANT  
OPENING. SOME ALSO ATTRIBUTE TO PLO DESIRE NOT TO EM-  
BARRASS HMG, CITING DISCRETION SHOWN BY PLO REPRESENTA-  
TIVE IN HIS PRESENT CONTACTS WITH FCO. OTHERS (WITH WHOM  
WE WOULD AGREE) THINK PLO LACKS THE TALENT TO STAFF SUCH  
AN OFFICE RELIABLY AND PLO LEADERSHIP PREFERS NOT TO  
BUILD UP REPRESENTATIONS WHICH MIGHT SPEAK AND ACT ON  
BEHALF OF PLO BUT BE BEYOND IMMEDIATE CONTROL OF ITS TOP  
LEADERSHIP.

SPIERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LIBERATION FRONTS, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchandr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 MOSCOW 976  
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**Review Authority:** buchandr  
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05 JUL 2006

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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LO'S MOSCOW AND LONDON OFFICES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UR, XF, UK, PLO  
**To:** STATE MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
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